

24 *Hours with the CHP* reflects the efforts of scores of CHP employees, non-uniformed and uniformed. It began in the summer of 1998 with an idea from Officer Sean Mitchell of North Sacramento Area to do a book depicting the fascinating variety of CHP activities on a single day.

Months of planning followed, with active support of the Office of Public Affairs, Officer Mitchell, the Assistant Commissioner, Field and Assistant Commissioner, Staff and Commissioner Helmick.

April 30 came, bringing with it a highly unusual snowfall in the Sierra and in the Southern California mountains. The weather was cool at lower elevations for so late in the spring.

As always occurs when the CHP commits itself to a project, employees from Alturas to El Centro responded with enthusiasm. Pictures came flooding through the mail, sometimes a dozen envelopes a day.

What happened on April 30? Regrettably, the traffic toll showed:

- 3 people killed
- 268 injured

Officers were active, working the 103,090 miles of highways and county roads in CHP jurisdiction:

- 202 DUI Arrests
- 5,691 Citations
- 397 Mechanical Violations
- 2,438 Verbal Warnings
- 3,452 Motorist Assists

Meanwhile, civilian employees kept the cars running, the mail flowing, computers humming, offices clean and truck terminals inspected and performed thousands of other skilled and professional jobs.

The sheer number of photos shipped to Headquarters made it a challenge for a panel of judges to choose the ones that showed the widest possible cross-section of activities for a 24-hour period. Regrettably, we couldn't use them all.

The final selections for *24 Hours with the CHP* give you a first-ever inside view of an organization many feel is the premiere traffic law enforcement agency in the world.